DRAMA

Answers to questions on drama should refer to the text and to such relevant

features as characterisation, key scene(s), structure, climax, theme, plot, conflict, setting . . .

Specimen Paper

1. Choose a play in which a central character struggles to cope with social convention or financial difficulties or family duties.

Briefly explain the reasons for the character’s struggle and discuss how the dramatist’s presentation of this struggle enhances your understanding of character and/or theme in the play as a whole.

2. Choose a play in which the concluding scene provides effective clarification of the central concerns.

By referring in detail to the concluding scene, discuss in what ways it is important for your understanding of the play as a whole.

3. Choose a play in which the conflict between two characters is an important feature.

Briefly explain the nature of this conflict and discuss how the dramatist’s presentation of this feature enhances your understanding of the play as a whole.

2015

1. Choose a play in which a major character’s actions influence the emotions of others.

Briefly explain how the dramatist presents these emotions and actions and discuss how this contributes to your understanding of the play as a whole.

2. Choose a play in which there is a scene involving a moment of conflict or of resolution to conflict.

By referring to details of the scene, explain how the dramatist presents this moment and discuss how this contributes to your appreciation of the play as a whole.

3. Choose a play which explores an important issue or issues within society.

Briefly explain the nature of the issue(s) and discuss how the dramatist’s presentation of the issue(s) contributed to your appreciation of the play as a whole.

2016

1. Choose a play in which a central character is in conflict with **or** rejects another character. Briefly explain the circumstances of the conflict or rejections and go on to discuss the consequences of this conflict or rejection for the play as a whole.
2. Choose a play in which the historical **and/or** geographical **and/or** social setting is important to your understanding of the play. Explain how the dramatist presents the setting and discuss why it is important to your understanding of the play as a whole.
3. Choose a play which has an effective opening scene **or** concluding scene. By briefly referring to details of the scene, explain how the dramatist made it effective and discuss how it contributes to your appreciation of the text as a whole.

2017

1. Choose a play in which a major character behaves in an impulsive **or** calculating **or** emotional manner. With reference to appropriate techniques, briefly explain the circumstances surrounding this behaviour and discuss how this behaviour adds to your understanding of the play as a whole.
2. Choose a play in which there is a scene which influences the course of future events. With reference to appropriate techniques, explain how the scene influences the course of events and discuss how it contributes to your appreciation of the text as a whole.
3. Choose a play which deals with the theme of honour or shame or betrayal. With reference to appropriate techniques, explain how the dramatist presents the theme and discuss why it is important to your understanding of the play as a whole.

2018

1. Choose a play which focuses on a relationship which is destructive or is in crisis. By referring to appropriate techniques, explain the nature of the relationship and discuss how it contributes to your appreciation of the play as a whole.

2. Choose a play in which a character has a weakness or flaw. By referring to appropriate techniques, explain the importance of this weakness or flaw and discuss how it contributes to your appreciation of the play as a whole.

3. Choose a play which explores the theme of truth and lies, or good and evil, or appearance and reality. By referring to appropriate techniques, explain how the dramatist presents this theme and discuss how it contributes to your appreciation of the play as a whole.

2019

1. Choose a play in which a major character experiences different emotions throughout the play. By referring to appropriate techniques, explain how the dramatist makes you aware of these different emotions and discuss how this contributes to your appreciation of the play as a whole.

2. Choose a play in which there is a scene involving a significant discovery or deception or revelation. By referring to appropriate techniques, explain how the discovery or deception or revelation is presented and discuss how its impact contributes to your appreciation of the play as a whole.

3. Choose a play which portrays conflict within an individual or family or community. By referring to appropriate techniques, explain the nature of this conflict and discuss how it contributes to your appreciation of the play as a whole.

2021

1. Choose a play which has a scene in which there is conflict or scheming or resolution. With reference to appropriate techniques, briefly explain the conflict or scheming or resolution and discuss how it contributes to your understanding of the play as a whole.
2. Choose a play in which a central character displays both positive and negative qualities. With reference to appropriate techniques, explain the nature of these qualities and discuss how they contribute to your appreciation of the play as a whole.
3. Choose a play which deals with the theme of corruption or loss or redemption. With reference to appropriate techniques, explain how the dramatist presents the theme and discuss how it contributes to your appreciation of the play as a whole.

2022

1. Choose a play in which a rivalry or friendship or close bond between two characters leads to negative consequences. By referring to appropriate techniques, explain how the rivalry or friendship or close bond leads to negative consequences and discuss how it contributes to your appreciation of the play as a whole.

2. Choose a play which deals with a theme of social or moral importance. By referring to appropriate techniques, explain how the theme is dealt with and discuss how it contributes to your appreciation of the play as a whole.

3. Choose a play in which there is a scene involving heightened tension or emotion. By referring to appropriate techniques, explain how the heightened tension or emotion is presented and discuss how it contributes to your appreciation of the play as a whole.

2023

1. Choose a play in which manipulation or deception or confusion is a significant feature.

By referring to appropriate techniques, briefly explain the manipulation or deception or

confusion and discuss how it contributes to your appreciation of the play as a whole.

2. Choose a scene from a play in which an important truth is revealed.

By referring to appropriate techniques, briefly explain how the scene reveals the important

truth and discuss how it contributes to your appreciation of the play as a whole.

3. Choose a play in which you find the fate of a character to be upsetting or moving or

shocking.

By referring to appropriate techniques, briefly explain why you found the fate of the

character upsetting or moving or shocking and discuss how it contributes to your

appreciation of the play as a whole.